



Attorney Docket: 173/50483
PATENT

14/C
TW
2-13-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MICHAEL PITTROFF ET AL.
Serial No.: 09/988,820 Group Art Unit: 1724
Filed: NOVEMBER 20, 2001 Examiner: Robert Spitzer
Title: ISOLATION OF SF₆ FROM INSULATING GASES IN GAS-INSULATED LINES

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to further examination of the above identified patent application, kindly amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please rewrite claims 1 and 5-7 as follows:

C₁
1. (Twice Amended) A process for separating a mixture of SF₆ and N₂, the SF₆/N₂ mixture being obtained from a gas insulated line, comprising introducing the mixture to a mobile membrane separator comprising at least one separating membrane which preferentially passes N₂, collecting an SF₆ enriched retentate, and forming an N₂ enriched permeate, wherein said mixture has an initial SF₆ content of from 5 to 50 volume-%, said at least one membrane comprises a polymer matrix composed of a polycarbonate made from a bisphenol in which at least 25% of the bisphenol units in the polymer chain are tetrahalogenated with chlorine or bromine, and said mixture is fed to said membrane separator at a membrane feed pressure of 10 to 13 bar.

C₂
5. (Twice Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the process is utilized during the use of the gas insulated line to purify an insulating gas mixture of SF₆ and N₂.